
Long Term Care Emergency Preparedness Report

Results from 2009 Survey of Missouri's
Licensed LTC Facilities



Division of Regulation and Licensure
Section for Long Term Care Regulation

In light of the many emergency events that occurred in the past couple of years and the H1N1 influenza pandemic, the Section for Long Term Care Regulation (SLCR) conducted its second survey of all licensed long term care facilities in Missouri. Each facility was asked to provide information concerning the development and contents of their emergency plans. SLCR received 454 anonymous responses and would like to thank all those facilities who responded. Basic response rate information by level of care is as follows:

- Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNF) – 247 = 50% response rate
- Intermediate Care Facilities (ICF) – 22 = 69% response rate
- Assisted Living Facilities (ALF) – 68 = 41% response rate
- Residential Care Facilities (RCF) – 117 = 26% response rate

Charts showing specific response rates to each question appear later in this report. Based on those responses, the following recommendations are offered to provide facilities with focus areas on which to concentrate their efforts in reviewing, and possibly revising, their emergency plans.

- Emergency plans should be reviewed on a regular, systematic basis to ensure the plan addresses the latest issues, such as pandemics, and contains up-to-date information including contact information for local emergency resources.
- Planning for adequate staffing needs to be addressed both in terms of staff accompanying residents in case of evacuation and in terms of overall staffing during periods of significant absenteeism as could occur during a pandemic situation.
- Facilities should involve local emergency planners as emergency plans are reviewed and revised. More coordination between the various entities within a community assists with resource allocation and overall response during emergency situations.
- Adequate supplies of water should be procured for emergency situations. A 7-10 day supply is recommended. During many types of emergencies, both municipal water supplies and private wells could either be out-of-service, operating at reduced capacity, or be unsafe to use.
- Facilities should strongly consider having an on-site generator. At a minimum, a ready hook-up for a generator should be installed. As many facilities experienced during recent ice storms, power can be out for significant periods of time and generators can be in short supply.

SLCR hopes these recommendations will assist facilities in their emergency planning efforts. SLCR will continue to provide information and resources to facilities and long term care associations as we all work to ensure that Missouri long term care facilities are prepared for any type of emergency.

SLCR welcomes any questions concerning the survey or emergency planning in general at (573) 522-1333.

The pages which follow show specific response rates for each question from the 2009 survey by level of care. Also shown is the change in response rate as compared to the 2008 survey for those questions which were the same on both surveys.

Did any of the following participate in the development of your emergency plan?

	SNF%		ICF%		ALF%		RCF%		AVG%	
	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008
Local Emergency Planning Agency	30	0	9	-15	27	+5	18	-2	21	-3
Local Health Department	26	+8	27	+8	24	+9	18	0	24	+6
Fire Department	68	-1	55	-26	72	+6	63	+6	65	-4
Ambulance Service	28	+5	18	-1	13	-11	20	0	20	-2
Police Department	32	+3	27	-1	24	-5	19	-3	25	-1
Sheriff's Department	13	-3	14	+9	10	-2	15	1	13	+1
Red Cross	9	-1	14	+14	9	+3	11	+7	11	+6
Other LTC Facilities	48	+8	36	+3	31	-10	25	-2	35	0
Utilities (2009 only)	30	n/a	32	n/a	18	n/a	19	n/a	25	n/a

Does your emergency plan contain the following emergency contact information?

	SNF%		ICF%		ALF%		RCF%		AVG%	
	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008
Ambulance Service	87	+3	73	-18	81	-8	78	0	80	-6
Local Emergency Operations Center	54	-2	46	-12	49	-6	40	-16	47	-9
Local Police Department	92	+3	86	+10	85	-5	84	+6	87	+4
Local Red Cross	44	+1	50	+31	35	+3	30	-2	40	+8
Local Sheriff's Department	65	+4	50	+2	50	-10	62	+10	57	+2
Regional SLCR Office	55	+6	46	+7	46	+8	39	+4	46	+6
Residents' Family Phone Numbers	46	-3	46	-21	56	-16	56	-17	51	-14
Your Staff Phone Numbers	84	-3	77	-13	85	-1	81	+1	82	-4
Local Fire Department (2009 only)	92	n/a	82	n/a	93	n/a	88	n/a	89	n/a
Utilities (2009 only)	83	n/a	68	n/a	72	n/a	69	n/a	73	n/a

Does your emergency plan assign specific roles to staff members?

	SNF%		ICF%		ALF%		RCF%		AVG%	
	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008
Yes	91	-1	82	-9	82	-10	80	+8	84	-3
No	7	+1	9	+4	12	5	17	-5	11	+2
No Response	2	-1	9	+4	6	5	3	-3	5	+1

Are your staff members familiar with using the following emergency equipment?

	SNF%		ICF%		ALF%		RCF%		AVG%	
	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008
Generator	72	+7	68	+6	46	+13	45	+12	58	+10
Fire Extinguisher	100	+2	91	-4	99	0	97	-1	97	-1
Communication	81	+5	77	+6	82	+1	84	+7	81	+5

Does your emergency plan address the following?

	SNF%		ICF%		ALF%		RCF%		AVG%	
	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008
Power Outages	97	+1	86	-4	91	+5	90	+7	91	+2
Alternative Power	75	-2	64	+2	50	-12	55	+5	61	-2
Staffing Needs	77	+1	55	-31	65	-14	72	+7	67	-9
Facility Evacuation	98	0	96	0	100	+1	97	+4	98	+2
Staff Accompanying Residents In Transit	65	+1	59	-3	66	-10	68	+6	64	-1
Areas Of Refuge	79	-6	82	+1	79	-2	77	-2	79	-2
Sheltering In Place	81	+2	77	+1	71	-12	77	-2	76	-3
Resident Medications	78	-1	68	-8	78	-7	73	-10	74	-7
Pandemics (2009 only)	49	n/a	50	n/a	35	n/a	37	n/a	43	n/a
Palliative Care In Pandemics (2009 only)	20	n/a	14	n/a	13	n/a	17	n/a	16	n/a

What communication capabilities does your facility have available during emergencies?

	SNF%		ICF%		ALF%		RCF%		AVG%	
	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008
Land Line	85	-6	86	-9	91	+1	80	-9	86	-6
Non-Cordless Land Line	43	+11	50	+21	53	-1	48	-3	48	+7
Cellular Telephone	93	-4	96	+5	93	+5	92	+1	93	+4
Two-Way Radio	42	+10	55	+17	32	+7	39	+14	42	+12
Short Wave Radio	5	+3	0	0	6	+3	8	+4	5	+2
Weather Alert Radio (2009 only)	87	n/a	91	n/a	75	n/a	75	n/a	82	n/a

Is your facility part of any plan to receive residents from other long term care facilities during emergencies?

	SNF%		ICF%		ALF%		RCF%		AVG%	
	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008
Yes	55	-7	46	-2	35	-23	33	-4	42	-9
No	44	+11	54	+2	63	+23	65	9	57	+11
No Response	1	-4	0	0	2	0	2	-5	1	-2

Does your facility have a written agreement with the other long term care facilities to receive their residents?

	SNF%		ICF%		ALF%		RCF%		AVG%	
<i>(Question not asked on 2008 survey)</i>	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008
Yes	79	n/a	70	n/a	83	n/a	67	n/a	75	n/a
No	21	n/a	30	n/a	17	n/a	33	n/a	25	n/a

What emergency supplies does your facility have on hand?

	SNF%		ICF%		ALF%		RCF%		AVG%	
	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008
Food	95	+3	96	-5	93	-6	94	+1	94	-2
Water	90	+5	86	-9	84	-12	85	+11	86	-1
Fuel	49	+7	55	2	32	5	32	+4	42	5

How many days worth? (Question not asked on 2008 survey; numbers shown are averages for all respondents)

	SNF		ICF		ALF		RCF		AVG	
	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008
Food	7	n/a	6	n/a	6	n/a	7	n/a	6.5	n/a
Water	3	n/a	7	n/a	4	n/a	4.5	n/a	4.6	n/a
Fuel	4.25	n/a	7	n/a	3.5	n/a	5	n/a	4.9	n/a

Do you provide resident families with information concerning your facility's emergency plan?

	SNF%		ICF%		ALF%		RCF%		AVG%	
	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008
Yes	38	0	41	12	50	-5	54	+8	46	+4
No	57	+3	50	16	41	+5	40	-6	47	-4
No Response	5	-3	9	4	9	0	6	-2	7	0

Does your facility have a generator on premises at all times? (Question not asked on 2008 survey)

	SNF%		ICF%		ALF%		RCF%		AVG%	
	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008
Yes	78	n/a	82	n/a	52	n/a	47	n/a	65	n/a
No	21	n/a	18	n/a	47	n/a	51	n/a	34	n/a
No Response	1	n/a	0	n/a	1	n/a	2	n/a	1	n/a

If yes, what does the generator run? (Question not asked on 2008 survey)

	SNF		ICF		ALF		RCF		AVG	
	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008
Regular Lighting	49	n/a	39	n/a	60	n/a	46	n/a	48	n/a
Emergency Lighting	94	n/a	100	n/a	89	n/a	76	n/a	90	n/a
HVAC System	63	n/a	61	n/a	60	n/a	49	n/a	58	n/a
Refrigerators	79	n/a	67	n/a	71	n/a	62	n/a	70	n/a
Freezers	75	n/a	67	n/a	71	n/a	60	n/a	68	n/a

Do you participate in community emergency preparedness exercises coordinated by your local emergency planning organization? *(Question not asked on 2008 survey)*

	SNF%		ICF%		ALF%		RCF%		AVG%	
	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008
Yes	47	n/a	32	n/a	44	n/a	41	n/a	41	n/a
No	51	n/a	64	n/a	53	n/a	56	n/a	56	n/a
No Response	2	n/a	4	n/a	3	n/a	3	n/a	3	n/a

Do you have an agreement with your local emergency preparedness organization to act as a special needs shelter? *(Question not asked on 2008 survey)*

	SNF%		ICF%		ALF%		RCF%		AVG%	
	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008	2009	Change from 2008
Yes	28	n/a	23	n/a	13	n/a	26	n/a	23	n/a
No	70	n/a	77	n/a	82	n/a	71	n/a	75	n/a
No Response	2	n/a	0	n/a	5	n/a	3	n/a	2	n/a

Additional Resources:

The following emergency preparedness planning resources are available from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services website at: http://www.dhss.mo.gov/Ready_in_3/AdultCareFacilities.html or by calling 573-526-4768:

- Ready-in-3: The ABC's of Emergency Preparedness for Adult Care Facilities (video)
- Disaster Preparedness Plan Template
- Family Safety Guide

Emergency planning information is also frequently in the DHSS LTC Information Update which is a weekly LISTSERV. To subscribe, please go to: http://cntysvr1.lphamo.org/mailman/listinfo/ltr_information_update

SLCR encourages all facilities to contact their local emergency management director for assistance in their emergency preparedness efforts. A list of local emergency management directors can be found at: <http://www.sema.dps.mo.gov/> and then clicking on "EMD List" under the "Other Information" heading in the center of the page.